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In 1939, Yugoslavia had 619 state post offices and 1,382 contract post offices, or a total of 2,001 regular post offices. There were an additional 2,018 district (opstina) post offices, but their services were very limited, so they could not be considered regular post offices. The relatively low number of state post offices in comparison with the number of contract post offices was due to contracts the Postal Administration made with private persons (merchants, tavern keepers, etc.), who contracted to run the post office concerned for a low salary. The majority of these post office managers employed so-called dispatchers, who performed post office services for a small salary. Dispatchers were considered employees of the PTT (Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Service). Their salaries were very low and they were mercilessly exploited by the contractors.

In 1939, Yugoslavia did not have telegraph or telephone channels (installations which allowed one line to carry more than one telephone conversation or to send more than one telegram simultaneously) or domestic radiotelephone connections, while the international radiotelegraph service was controlled by foreign companies (TSF Company).

The PTT was considerably damaged during the National Liberation War, but reconstruction was started right after the liberation. The Five-Year Plan calls for telephone connections to be established between Belgrade and all republic and oblast centers by the end of 1951. Telephone connections are to be established also in all industrial centers, all srez councils, and all state farms and stations.

At the end of 1950, Yugoslavia had 3,802 postal, telegraph, and telephone establishments. The number and distribution of PTT offices were as follows:

	<u>1939</u>	<u>1945</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Serbia	580	557	580	618	743	1,018	1,144
Croatia	745	600	688	787	842	960	1,050
Slovenia	360	363	368	437	555	561	561
Bosnia-Herzegovina	186	103	125	143	328	735	765
Montenegro	69	75	73	70	77	183	194
Macedonia	61	48	60	79	121	85	88

Of the total number of postal, telegraph, and telephone establishments, there were 2,659 permanent and 1,143 subsidiary post offices. The latter are post offices serving local people's councils, in which an official of the local people's council manages the post office in addition to his other duties. Subsidiary post offices render almost the same service as permanent post offices except for certain limitations. A subsidiary post office works under the supervision of its permanent post office. Subsidiary post offices were first established in 1948.

To enlarge the postal network and include as many villages as possible, mail carrier service was introduced in 1948. There were 1,195 rural mail carriers in 1948, 2,106 in 1949, and 2,187 in 1950.

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PTT establishments in prewar Yugoslavia were mostly housed in private buildings. To keep the rent as low as possible, buildings were rented which neither complied with the technical requirements of the PTT nor provided healthful working conditions. Only 121 PTT establishments were housed in buildings owned by the Ministry for Post Offices. In 20 years, only 60 buildings were constructed which met the requirements of the PTT.

From the liberation to 1 October 1950, 50 PTT buildings were constructed. Nine new buildings were constructed for the PTT in 1950.

At the end of 1950, mail transport routes covered 168,296 kilometers. The types and length of postal routes were as follows (in kilometers):

	<u>1939</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Railroad routes	18,457	14,735	15,412	15,154	15,565	16,478
Road routes						
Motor vehicle	9,669	13,444	16,696	14,935	17,055	17,039
Other vehicles	8,176	5,227	5,579	30,825	64,875	68,776
Sea routes	4,920	1,962	2,998	26,008	36,511	51,813
Air routes	4,857	3,330	5,339	480	8,907	14,190

The large increase in the length of mail routes resulted from putting into operation newly constructed railroads, new post offices, more rural mail carriers, new Yugoslav transoceanic ships, and new domestic and international air lines.

Mail transportation routes in Yugoslavia are handled by state economic enterprises, while many land routes in prewar Yugoslavia were handled as concessions by private persons for which the PTT paid expensive transportation rates.

The occupation of Yugoslavia resulted in the destruction or removal of more than 60 percent of postal vehicles. So far, 72 percent of the mail cars have been repaired. At the end of 1950, the number of transportation vehicles in Yugoslavia was as follows:

	<u>1939</u>	<u>1945</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Railroad mail cars	306	114	168	194	222	247	270
Motor vehicles	201	343	509	375	384	356	326
Battery-powered carts	--	2	2	12	12	10	10
Hand carts	810	494	864	864	864	1,276	1,003
Bicycles	--	268	768	1,276	1,276	1,003	2,276
Motorcycles	--	--	--	--	--	24	24

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At the end of 1948, the number of letters and postal cards sent through the mails was as follows:

	<u>1939</u>	<u>1945</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>
Domestic	274,373,701	159,327,056	216,645,130	268,544,418	310,423,344
International	34,730,467	--	15,397,965	22,539,910	22,726,989
Total	309,604,168	159,327,056	232,343,155	291,084,328	333,150,333

The increase in the transmission of letters and postal cards was the result of the enlarged postal network and the increased literacy of the population.

At the end of 1948, the number of newspapers and pieces of printed matter sent through the mails was as follows:

	<u>1939</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>
Domestic	252,214,709	190,534,600	243,501,510	321,047,369
International	18,274,765	337,824	5,616,610	9,795,080
Total	270,489,474	191,372,424	249,118,120	330,842,449

The number of letters, cards, newspapers, pieces of printed matter, and the like sent through the mails in 1949 and 1950 was as follows:

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Domestic	746,695,999	763,885,677
International	26,688,001	20,991,323
Total	773,384,000	784,877,000

The increase in the transmission of newspapers and printed matter was the result of the intensive political, cultural, and educational work in Yugoslavia and also of including village news more and more in the press.

The number of parcel post packages sent through the mails was as follows:

	<u>1939</u>	<u>1945</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>
Domestic	5,009,951	244,331	2,523,082	5,314,162
International	259,363	--	451,107	767,268
Total	5,269,314	244,331	2,974,189	6,081,430

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Domestic	5,967,892	6,627,145	6,988,606
International	652,530	604,655	962,394
Total	6,620,422	7,232,000	7,951,000

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Postal money transactions were as follows:

<u>Postal Money Orders</u>	<u>1932</u>	<u>1933</u>	<u>1945</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Number	6,910,368	752,707	3,122,467	4,477,040	4,721,896	4,293,591	4,242,110
Dinars	3,558,535,588	--	3,477,355,028	5,197,033,595	5,500,650,852	5,742,092,901	**

<u>Postal Accounts</u>							
Number	16,613,532	2,341,892	13,575,407	25,016,304	25,601,837	15,678,633	14,085,750
Dinars	31,623,980,549	--	53,352,269,007	59,224,141,963	59,949,782,945	**	**

Other Postal Financial Transactions
(savings and accounts,
cashing letters of credit)

Number	--	--	--	--	--	11,181,776	7,138,140
Dinars	--	--	--	--	--	67,114,020,250*	**

* Includes postal accounts
** 80,394,584,300 dinars for all postal financial transactions in 1950

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After the liberation, telegraph and telephone lines were found to be mostly destroyed or heavily damaged; however, their restoration was very rapid, and domestic telegraph and telephone service was back in operation by mid-1945.

If 1945 is taken as 100, telephone lines increased in length to 111 in 1946, 116 in 1947, and 127 in 1948; and telegraph lines increased to 152 in 1946, 155 in 1947, and 161 in 1948. In 1949 and 1950, the length of telegraph and telephone lines, cables, and channels was as follows:

	<u>Total Length (km)</u>	
	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
<u>Telegraph and Telephone Lines</u>		
Telegraph lines	6,955	6,814
Local telephone lines	34,186	38,678
Long-distance telephone lines	85,166	88,794
<u>Telegraph and Telephone Cables</u>		
Telegraph cables	587	363
Telephone cables	115,618	121,081
<u>Telegraph and Telephone Channels</u>		
Telegraph channels	171	242
Telephone channels	479	514

In 1950, there were 1,378 telegraph instruments, including 421 teletypes. This does not include 55 teletypes owned by subscribers.

The number of telephone subscribers has been increasing as follows:

	<u>No of Subscribers</u>
1946	53,636
1947	59,635
1948	66,971
1949	74,994
1950	76,513

Domestic radiotelegraph communications were established after the liberation. In the international service, Yugoslavia has direct radio-telegraph communications with Bern, Beirut, London, Moscow, New York, Prague, and Warsaw, and, if necessary, with Budapest, Rome, and Tirana.

Domestic and international telegraph and telephone traffic has been steadily increasing in number and length of telegrams, and number of telephone calls, as follows:

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	<u>1939</u>	<u>1945</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Number of telegrams	3,905,264	2,170,242	3,604,275	4,427,020	5,740,864	6,883,000	7,486,000
Number of words	78,533,676	56,158,911	77,669,820	93,009,230	111,910,412	142,954,727	145,075,196
Number of domestic telegrams	3,289,792	2,051,966	3,259,626	3,960,096	5,156,574	6,236,785	6,931,090
Number of international telegrams	615,472	118,876	344,649	526,932	584,290	596,215	554,910
Number of words in domestic telegrams	65,484,591	52,618,608	65,364,548	77,153,296	104,576,957	125,735,700	128,815,258
Number of words in international telegrams	13,049,085	3,540,303	12,305,272	15,855,934	17,333,455	17,219,027	16,259,938

The number of domestic, and international long-distance telephone calls has been increasing as follows:

	<u>1939</u>	<u>1945</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Domestic telephone calls	4,376,400	3,540,737	7,095,007	11,041,120	14,979,512	20,141,400	23,126,934
International telephone calls	372,211	Not available	37,603	108,690	175,830	120,600	118,066
Total	4,748,611	3,540,737	7,132,610	11,150,210	15,155,342	20,262,000	23,245,000

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Yugoslav long-distance facilities do not meet cultural, political, and economic requirements; 4.8 percent of all requested long-distance calls in the first half of 1950 were canceled because of technical disturbances or because lines were busy.

Through 1948, personnel increases in the PTT were as follows:

<u>1939</u>	<u>1945</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>
15,928	15,293	18,696	20,045	23,441

The Ministry for Post Offices, Telegraphs, and Telephones gives special attention to the improvement and development of new personnel. In 1947, three postal, telegraph, and telephone technical institutes, a two-year PTT school, and two industrial telegraph and telephone schools for mechanics were opened. These schools had 570 students enrolled in them in 1947.

In 1949, three PTT technical institutes, two industrial schools for telephone and telegraph mechanics, and one trade school at the "Nikola Tesla" Telegraph and Telephone Equipment Factory (Fabrika Telegrafsko-Telefonskih Uredjaja) in Zagreb were in operation.

One hundred fifty-four students attended the electrical installation course at the Technical Institute in Belgrade, 288 students attended the postal course at the same institute, and 152 students attended the postal course at the Technical Institute in Zagreb.

One hundred fifty students were enrolled in the industrial school for telephone and telegraph mechanics in Zagreb and 62 students in the industrial school in Ljubljana.

The trade school in the "Nikola Tesla" factory was attended by 62 students.

In addition to these schools, many diversified courses were given to develop new personnel and improve existing personnel, as follows:

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Type of Course	1945		1946		1947		1948		1949		1950	
	No of Courses	No of Students	No of Courses	No of Students	No of Courses	No of Students	No of Courses	No of Students	No of Courses	No of Students	No of Courses	No of Students
Delivery mobile postal service /railroad postal service//, postal, telegraph, and tele- phone service	50	492	105	2,224	122	1,542	57	1,083	76	1,173	67	944
Assistants in postal, telegraph, and tele- phone operation	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	241	57	1,647	12	180
Postal, tele- graph, and telephone operators	-	-	9	348	8	491	14	524	17	357	23	641
Managers of small post offices	-	-	-	-	1	32	-	-	2	163	6	19
Telegraph and tele- phone mechanics	1	55	3	127	3	105	5	213	-	361	*	661

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Department for electric connections												
No. of												
Teletype operators	-	-	-	-	1	20	-	-	11	184	15	191
Junior dispatchers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20	3	59
Marine telegraphers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	326	31	306
Other branches (administrative, legal, etc.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	469	14	294

* Telegraph and telephone mechanics were trained in industrial schools, courses for skilled and semiskilled workers, and on the job.

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Postal, telegraph, and telephone establishments in Yugoslavia are managed by the Federal Ministry for Post Offices, Telegraphs, and Telephones through directorates, organized as enterprises and located in the capitals of the republics. Serbia, in addition to the Directorate of Post Offices, Telegraphs, and Telephones in Belgrade, has another directorate in Novi Sad, which covers the Vojvodina. Because of the geographic situation and specific nature of operations in Dalmatia, Croatia has a directorate in Split, in addition to the directorate in Zagreb. In addition to the directorates in the republics, the ministry also manages the following enterprises: the "Nikola Tesla" Factory, the "Mihajlo Pupin" Telephone Equipment Factory (Fabrika Telefonskih Uredjaja "Mihajlo Pupin"), the "Jugofilatelija" Stamp Enterprise in Belgrade, the Belgrade Printing Enterprise (Stamparija) and its subsidiary in Ljubljana, the Enterprise for the Procurement of Post Office, Telegraph, and Telephone Material (Preduzece za Nabavku Postansko-Telegrafsko-Telefonskog Materijala) in Belgrade, and the Belgrade Publishing Enterprise (Izdavacko Preduzece u Beogradu).

The Ministry for Post Offices, Telegraphs, and Telephones acts as a higher economic association, for it manages its own enterprises. With the decentralization of state administration in 1950, the personnel of the ministry was reduced and operational functions connected with the operation of its enterprises, formerly concentrated to a certain degree in the ministry, were turned over to the enterprises themselves. Workers' councils and administrative councils were elected in all enterprises, and the councils assumed management of the enterprises. To accomplish even broader decentralization, managerial bodies were elected in basic units of enterprises and directorates, and srez post offices were given special responsibility in post office management within the srez area concerned.

The postal service is organized so that a srez post office manages all post offices in the srez concerned, and cooperates with the srez people's agencies regarding problems and general business concerning the PTT. Srez post offices were first established at the beginning of 1946, with 282 such post offices being established by the end of 1948. In the srezes, there were 1,902 local post offices and 470 subsidiary post offices in operation by the end of 1948. A subsidiary post office is located within the area of a local people's council and is managed by an official of the local people's council.

The budget for 1939 and 1945 - 1948 of the Ministry for Post Offices, Telegraphs, and Telephones was as follows:

	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
	(1,000 dinars)	
1939	413,208	533,846
1945	393,799	264,928
1946	797,078	1,052,712
1947	944,982	1,402,122
1948	1,457,345	1,920,466

Financing of the PTT before the war was done through a centralized budget. The Ministry for Post Offices had to distribute and approve credits to PTT directorates on the basis of quarterly requests, making it impossible for directorates to make financial decisions freely, thus not giving them the necessary flexibility.

Budgets after the liberation were decentralized.

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